



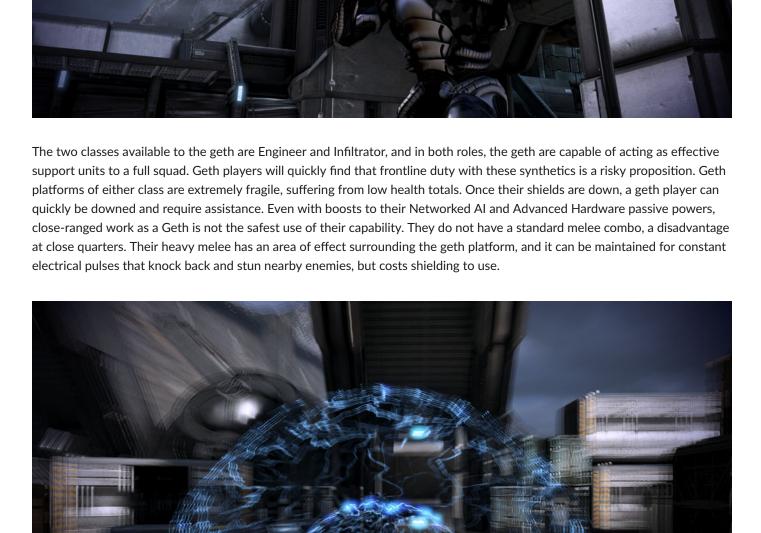


New Character Classes

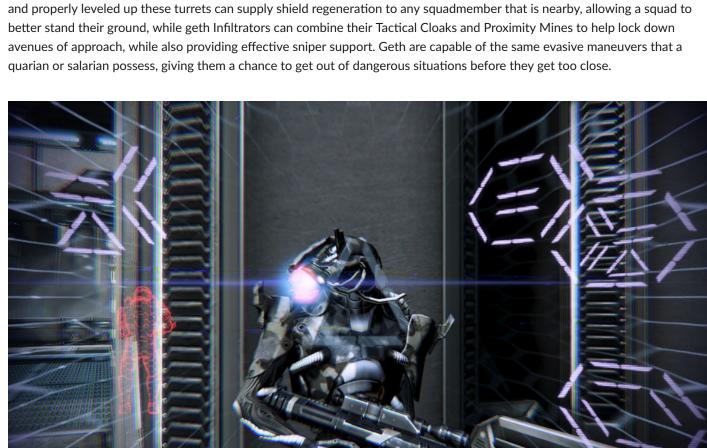
Joining the original characters available at release are two whole new races, the Geth and the Batarians, who both come with two separate character classes. Additionally, the Asari and the Krogan both receive a new class.







Despite these disadvantages, geth make for excellent ranged combatants and team players. Engineers can deploy Geth Turrets,



Unique to the geth classes is the Hunter Mode power. Activating this power cuts a geth's effective shielding in half. However, Hunter Mode turns on a specialized heads-up display that allows a geth to see through nearby walls, highlighting enemies who may be lying in wait. Additionally, Hunter Mode improves the effectiveness of all ranged weapons for as long as the ability is

active, making geth sniping some of the deadliest in the game. Geth also enjoy a boost in the damage caused by all geth

weapon by leveling their passive powers.	
Geth Powers by Class	
Engineer	Infiltrator
Geth Turret Hunter Mode Overload	Tactical Cloak Proximity Mine Hunter Mode



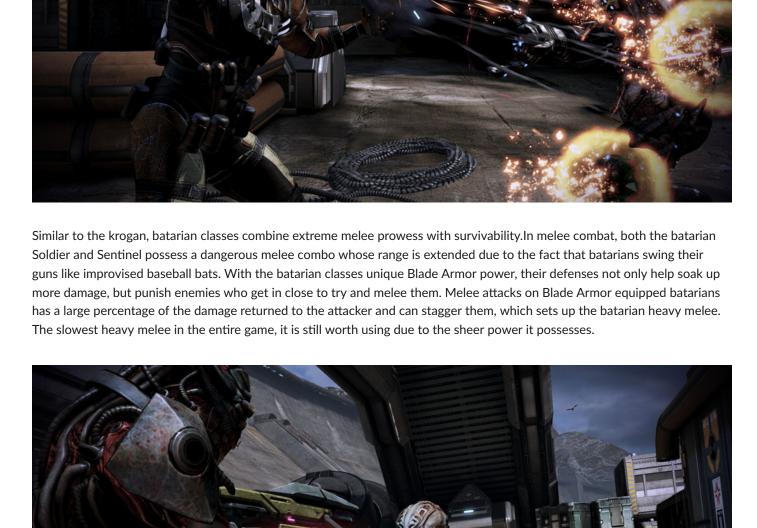


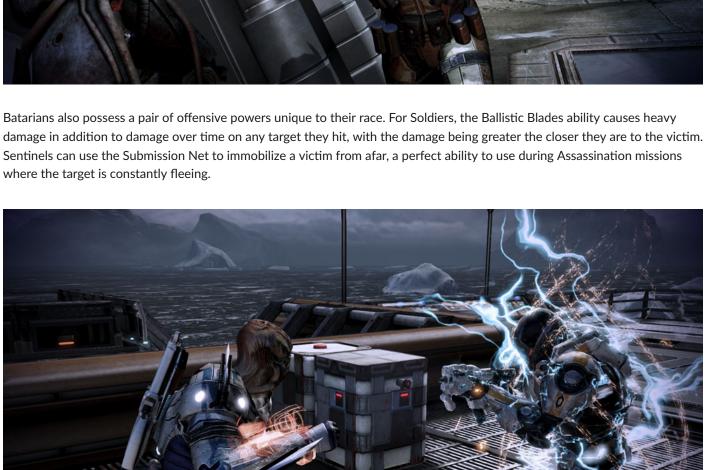






Formerly members of Citadel space, the Batarian Hegemony closed its embassy and cut all ties to the Citadel Council after a dispute with the humans ended poorly for them, politically and militarily. Funding criminal and mercenary organizations, the Batarian Hegemony has waged a less than covert war against humanity and their Citadel allies, though this has come to an abrupt and violent end with the Reaper invasion. Striking Hegemony space first, the Reapers immediately took hold of the batarian homeworld of Khar'shan, and within days overwhelmed the empire. Survivors of this vicious opening assault have fled into neighboring human and Citadel systems, seeking refuge from the Reapers. Many batarians have fallen into despair over the fate of their loved ones and their nation, but others refuse to cower in the face of annihilation, and are joining the fight.





Like the krogan and the turians, batarians do not have evasive maneuvers to rely on while under attack, and must rely on cover to avoid enemy fire. Consider bulking up the health and shield reserves of a batarian through their two passive abilities, particularly for the harder difficulty battles where an all out offense is not as feasible.	
Batarian Powers by Class	
Soldier	Sentinel
Ballistic Blades Blade Armor Inferno Grenade	Blade Armor Shockwave Submission Net







Combining the same tank-like toughness of the other krogan classes, their racial affinity towards more "hands-on" violence, with the class-defining Vanguard ability to get close to the enemy and inflict immense damage in the blink of an eye, the Krogan Vanguard is a beast of a class in every sense. Biotic Charge is as powerful as ever, naturally restoring half of your shields upon impact with an enemy, and this can be leveled to restore full shields with every use. The Carnage ability remains an effective armor and health shredding ability, while Barrier bolsters the already impressive defenses of a krogan at the cost of increased cooldown times.





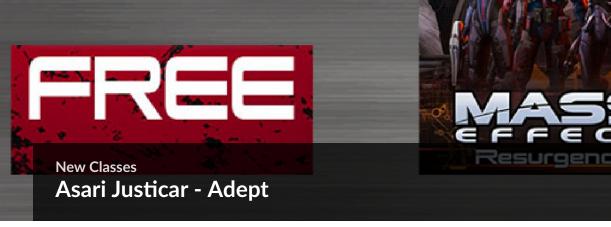
What makes the Krogan Vanguard so much fun to play is tied directly into the Krogan Rage passive power. Killing three enemies with melee attacks within 30 seconds with melee attacks drives the krogan into a rage that increases melee damage and reduces all damage taken for thirty seconds. With Biotic Charge, you can constantly find new victims and fuel your krogan rage almost endlessly. Take a light weapon like the Disciple shotgun with you, and you'll have Biotic Charge and Carnage available almost constantly, on top of having a solid close to mid-range solution.



Krogan Battlemaster Powers Vanguard

Biotic Charge Carnage Barrier





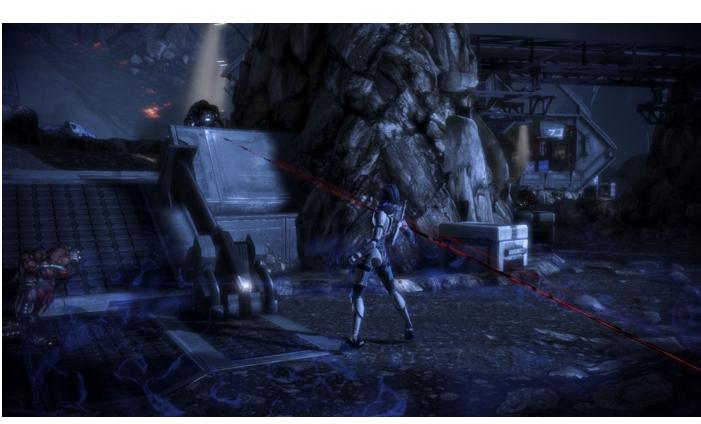


Asari Justicars act as a support specialist to a squad. Their Biotic Sphere ability places a bubble shield where the Justicar stands, improving the defenses of those standing within it for the time the shield lasts, an excellent tool for objectives that require a team to hold a specific position. Biotic Sphere can even be leveled up to inflict a Warp effect on the enemy, causing damage and setting up a Biotic Explosion combo with other biotic abilities. Reave helps break down enemy defenses while improving the Justicar's own, while Pull is another ability that can be used to set up biotic combos, or help break down the defenses of its victims





Asari Justicars do not enjoy the crowd control ability of the standard Asari Adept, and because of their orientation towards more a more supportive role in combat, they are not as effective by themselves. However, when working in coordination with a team, a Justicar can help make the killing go much faster.



Asari Justicar Powers

Adept

Biotic Sphere Reave Pull





Available as random rewards from the in-game store are three new weapons: the Striker Assault Rifle, the Kishock Harpoon Gun, and the Geth Plasma SMG. This guide will show you the basic statistics of each weapon at levels 1 and 10, to help compare the guns to anything else you might have in your arsenal.

Striker Assault Rifle

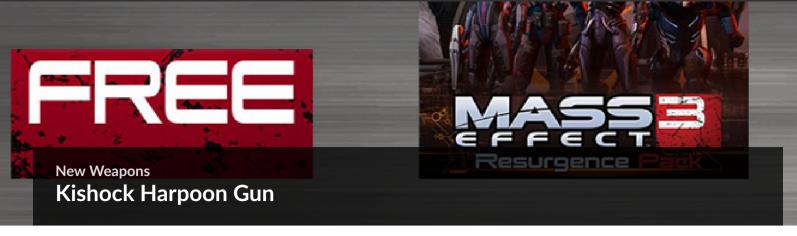


The Striker is a fully-automatic weapon that functions more as a grenade launcher than a rifle, firing high-impact slugs that detonate on contact. The weapon increases its rate of fire the longer the trigger is held, which is devastating if the weapon can be kept on-target. In an attempt to market the Striker outside of the Krogan DMZ, the gun was designed to be fired by non-krogan, but its recoil tends to off-balance smaller species. Enthusiasts point out that the target on the receiving end of a Striker has far worse things to worry about than balance.









Kishock Harpoon Gun

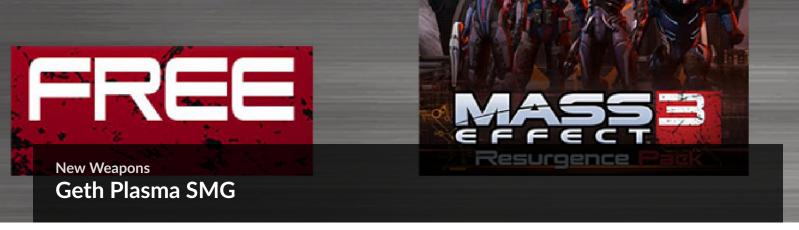


An Alliance captain on her fifth tour of the Terminus Systems once said that seeing a Kishock was the easiest way to tell if she was being attacked by batarian mercenaries or slavers, since "no bastard with a Kishock means to take you alive." This powerful sniper rifle fires a harpoon-like spike that causes massive internal bleeding, and its miniaturized disrupters will also destroy synthetics. The rifle's biggest drawback is that it must be reloaded after every shot, but for those with steady aim and good timing, one shot is enough.









Geth Plasma SMG



This submachine gun works on the same principles as the Spitfire: it shoots super conducting toroids that break apart on impact, retaining an electrical charge that flash-converts the shrapnel into plasma. Unlike the Spitfire, however, this smaller geth weapon has been modified to take thermal clips. Holding down the trigger speeds up its rate of fire, rapidly depleting the gun's heat sink in exchange for nearly continuous fire.



Fire Rate

Damage >

Accuracy

Weapon Mods







New Bonus Equipment

The four new pieces of bonus equipment that can be earned from purchasing enhancement packs are as follows:

Strength Enhancer: Applies a melee damage boost for one mission.

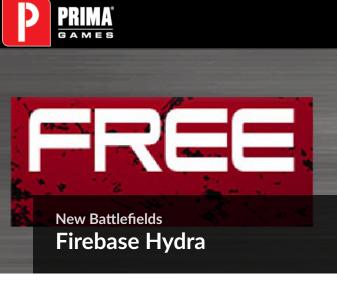
Targeting VI: Applies a headshot damage bonus for one mission.

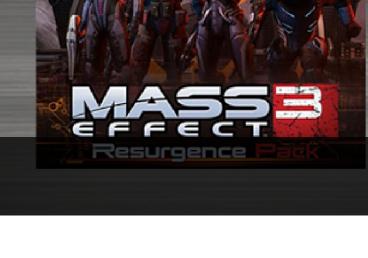
Shield Power Cell: Shortens the length of time shields take to begin recharging for one mission.

Stabilization Module: Stabilizes weapons while firing and moving for one mission.

Note

As with all other pieces of Bonus Equipment, the effects of these items last for one mission only, win or lose. Make them count!





Firebase: Hydra



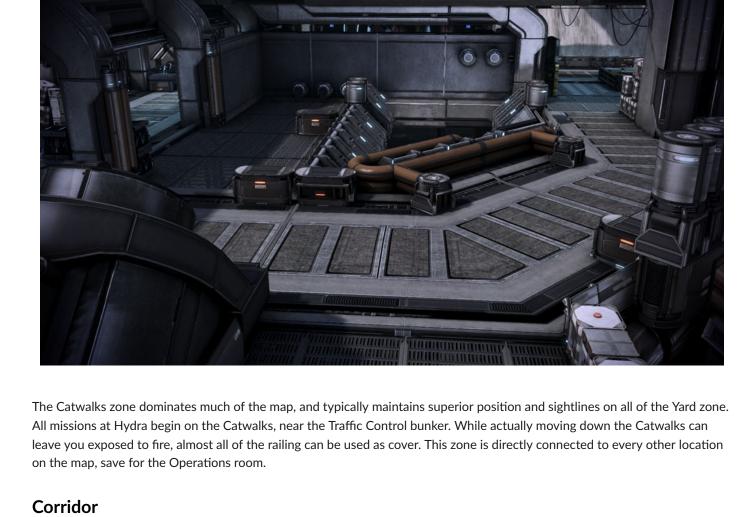
the entire theatre would go dark.

Consisting of the upper level catwalks leading into the facility proper, surrounding a central yard, Firebase Hydra's various

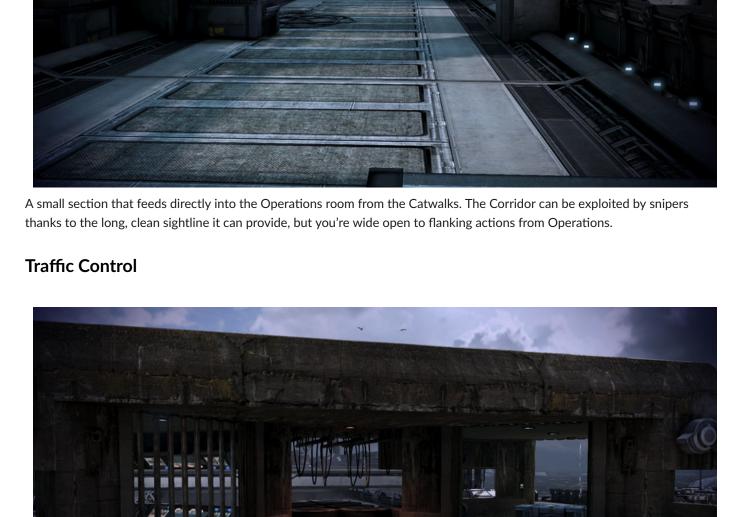
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sectors are networked together extensively, allowing easy movement between zones for both the player squad and the enemy. Much of Hydra is filled with useful environmental cover, which can extend firefights against the more tactical Cerberus into a game of cat and mouse.

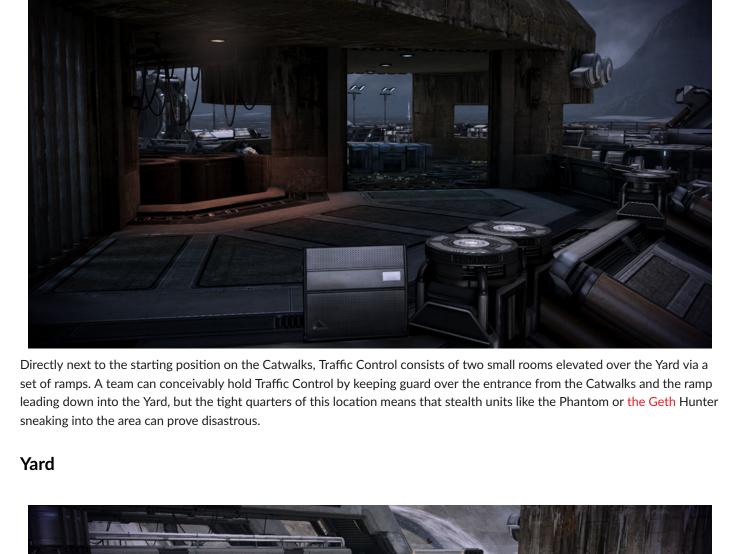




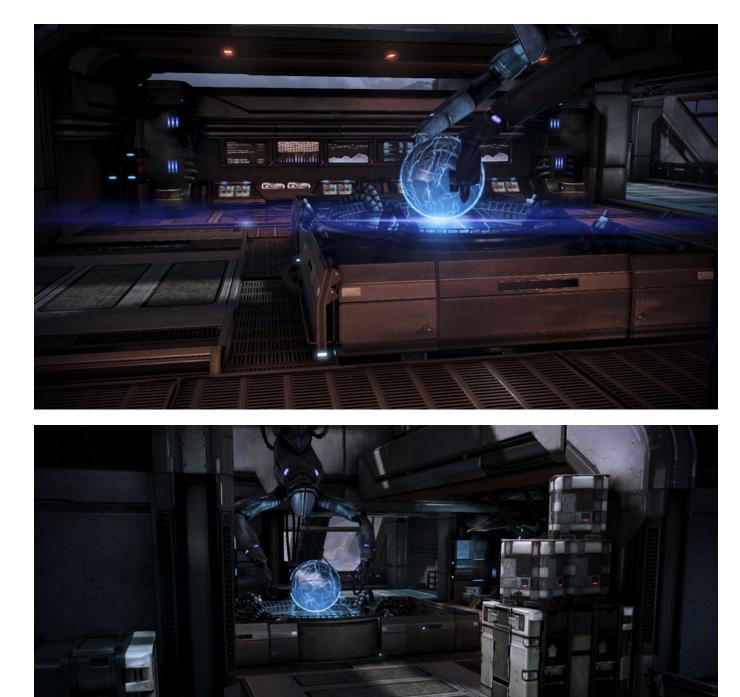








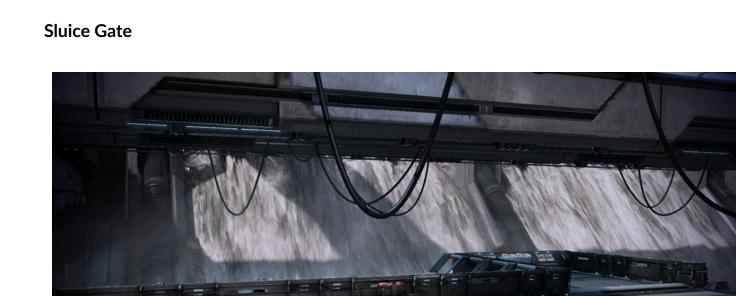




The other large section of Hydra, the Yard is at a lower elevation compared to every other section of the map, which can be a blessing or a curse depending on the squad's position. Fortunately, the Yard is filled with much in the way of environmental

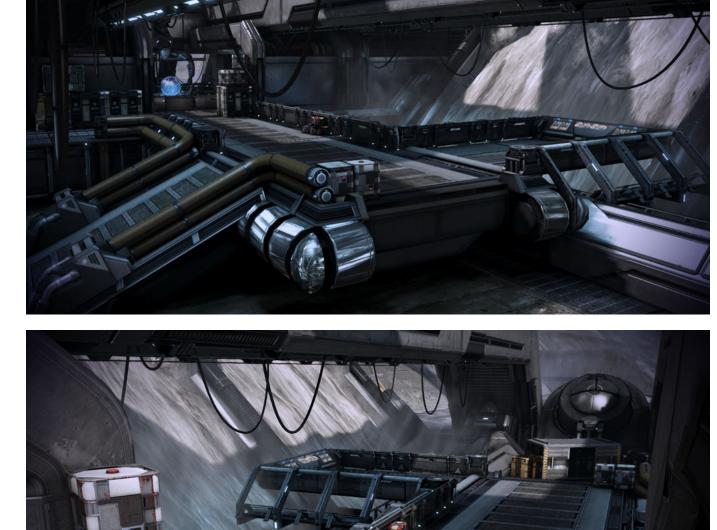
cover, which can make defending static objectives in this sector a little easier.

Operations



Sandwiched between Corridor and the Sluice Gate, Operations is a location often used by by the Hacking objectives mode, and it can prove daunting to defend. Corridor has two large entrances leading into operations, while the way leading to the Sluice

Gate is not easy to cover without exposing yourself in the process.

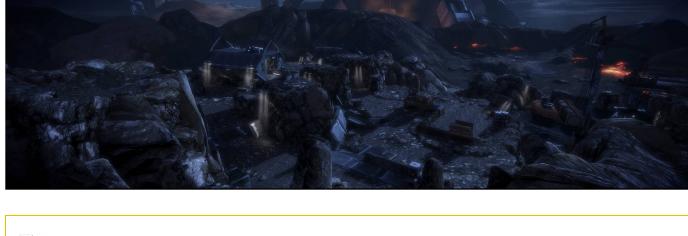


Overlooking a portion of the Yard, the Sluice Gate can be used to supress hostiles in the lower areas or those trying to pass through Operations. Be aware that you are vulnerable to sniping from much of the Catwalks and even from Traffic Control.





Firebase: Condor



Designed as a series of 'steps' leading to higher ground, much of Condor is built up with defensible positions that look down on

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lower areas, but in many cases the lower areas have just as much cover as the higher areas. Outside of the main base locations, the Mining Site is a highly contestable area that has ramp access to nearly every other section of the map. **Lower Ridge**







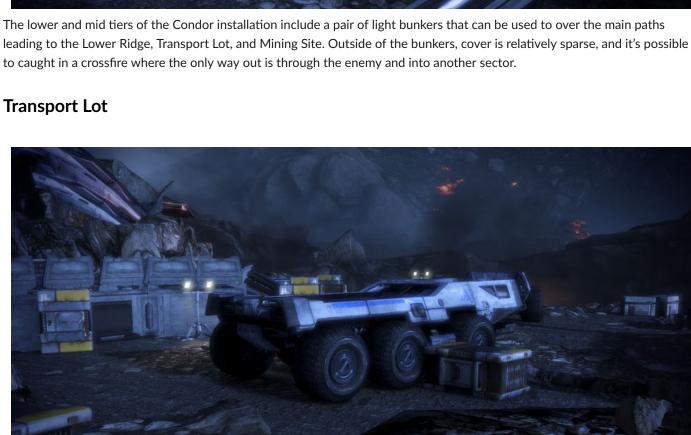
The starting location of the map and Extraction point, the Lower Ridge is actually quite defensible despite the Camp area looking directly into this zone. Holding down this sector against determined assault in the endgame is feasible. Breaking out into other sectors should you get pinned down here is another matter altogether, as squads are very much caught in a funnel

Camp

that allows hostiles both superior position and cover.









A transitional sector between the Upper Ridge and the Camp, the Transport Lot contains many pieces of static cover and vehicles to dart between, which makes this a dangerous hunting ground for Cerberus troops who are prone to aggressive flanking maneuvers. The smaller Upper Ridge section has overwatch on the Transport Lot, which can prove problematic during

objective modes that require you to be in the lot.

Upper Ridge

Mining Site



the Transport Lot. This is not a safe section to try and hold during the Extraction phase of a mission, as it will force players to run through the majority of the map that will be filled with hostile reinforcements in order to get to the extraction zone.



The single largest sector of Condor, the Mining Site has ramp access to every other zone on the map except the Lower Ridge, which is only a short run through a section of the Camp away. With so many points of ingress, defending objectives at the

Mining Site can be taxing, particularly on Silver or Gold difficulty. With as large as this area is, crowd control can be somewhat

difficult to maintain, as the enemy is more able to spread out and avoid Stasis bubbles or grenades.